

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the statements made, or opinions expressed by our correspondents.

Judicial Interpretation.

MR. EDITOR: In the course of my legal studies, I have lately made an important discovery in the true process of Judicial Interpretation. It greatly facilitates and simplifies the hitherto complex and laborious duties of a Judge in interpreting the laws.

1. Pay no attention to the actual provisions and limitations expressed in the statute under consideration.

2. Determine what the law ought to be, in order to be a good law.

3. Declare that the law actually does mean, what you in your wisdom, perceive that it ought to mean.

The obvious advantages of this method of interpretation are the following:

1. You thereby secure at once a good law, no matter how defective the statute may have been hitherto.

2. You relieve the Legislature from the labor and perplexity of correcting and amending defective statutes. Most Legislatures are incompetent and corrupt, and cannot be trusted to make good laws.

3. You are enabled to thwart and bribe presuming officials, who exercise too great powers of discretion.

4. You establish the Judiciary on that pedestal of superiority and supremacy which is its rightful and natural position.

5. What is the use of being a Judge, anyhow, if you cannot make the law to suit yourself?

SOLON JUNIOR.

The Ec-Candidate for Noble and the Hilo Record.

MR. EDITOR: The Editor of the Bulletin takes exception to the manner in which a recent number of the Hilo Record polishes off the late defeated candidate for Noble on the island of Maui, but in the minds of the community, the Record has hit the nail square on the head. The Bulletin for a long time past has made itself notorious for admitting to its columns every anonymous scandal monger who had a personal spite to vent, but in its editorial columns has confined itself to sitting on the fence or if it did occasionally by accident print an article favoring one side more than the other, it immediately afterward saved its reputation by producing another article in favor of the other side.

After the Editor of the Bulletin got the political bee in his bonnet, however, the Bulletin managed to pull its poor old bones together and for a week or two "whooped it up" for the Anti-Reform, but when the Anti-Reform gun on Maui blew out the breach and knocked the wind out of the would-be politicians who were aiming it, the mild milk of human kindness which is a part of the make-up of the usually gentle and meek scribbler of the Bulletin, turned to pure bile, specimens of which have been launched upon an unoffending community at intervals of twenty-four hours, like unto one of the periodical spouting geysers in Yellowstone Park.

J. E. L. L. Y.

Educational Matters.

MR. EDITOR: I would like to call the attention of the members elect of the Legislature to the great injustice to the poor man which is brought about by the compulsory education law as it stands at present, and to an amendment to the same which I think would remedy the matter.

Our compulsory system, in the main a good one, was organized many years ago when the school population affected thereby was principally Hawaiian.

It is well known that Hawaiian families average small, thus having but few food consumers to be supplied by the father or bread winner of the family. In those days, too, food was easily obtained, and it was no serious trouble to the head of the family if he were deprived of the labor of his children until they arrived at the age of fifteen or even longer.

Now, however, this is all changed. A large part of the school population is made up of the children of foreigners whose parents are laborers on the plantations. This class of families average large, especially the Portuguese families, a man quite often having a troupe of eight or nine children to feed and clothe, all under the age of fifteen. The law forces all of these between the ages of six and fifteen to attend school, and he is deprived of the help of the elder ones to assist in supporting the rest. Of course the law is a good one as far as those of tender years is concerned, for it prevents parents from overworking them, but when a boy is twelve years of age, good, hard work of a reasonable amount will not hurt him, and he could earn from half to two thirds of a man's wages in light plantation work.

I propose a plan which, while I am sure it will not decrease the educational standard here, will enable parents to have the use of their children's muscles for several more years than now.

I propose a law exempting all children over twelve years of age from compulsory attendance on the

public schools in all cases where they can pass a satisfactory examination in reading, writing and the simple rules of arithmetic.

The standard and method of examination could be easily arranged by the Board of Education. I believe if such a law were passed that a large majority of the children in the public schools would be as well advanced at the age of twelve as they now are at the age of fifteen. Parents would see to it that their children attended regularly and that they learned their lessons. At present it is the exception in the public schools where children do any studying at home, all the lesson-learning being done in school hours. When parents learn that if their children study well and advance rapidly they can earn exemption, I think a great impetus will be given to study, and the labor of truant officers be dispensed with.

C. H. DICKEY.

Haiku, Maui, March 24th.

The Proposed Treaty Negotiations.

MR. EDITOR: In reading the Bulletin's report this evening of the meeting of the Cabinet with members of the Legislature and capitalists to discuss over proposed negotiations for a revision of the reciprocity treaty, my attention was forcibly called to the apparently ill-natured remarks of Mr. T. H. Davies, in response to a statement made by Mr. J. B. Atherton, regarding conversations he had with gentlemen on his trip from San Francisco to Boston. Mr. Atherton's remarks were quite pertinent, and were no doubt intended simply to show the feeling of the people of the United States (as far as his observation went) regarding annexation. It has been openly stated in some of the native newspapers and by those unfriendly to the treaty, that the United States was anxious to absorb the islands, and was only waiting for a favorable opportunity. Mr. Atherton, in expressing himself as opposed to annexation, simply stated the result of his observation while traveling in the United States, and why Mr. T. H. Davies should make the statement "that he was not prepared to discuss the treaty at present, especially if they were to import into the discussion Mr. Atherton's conversations from San Francisco to Boston" would seem to imply that he failed to comprehend the gravity of the subject, which the gentlemen present had been called together to discuss. The prosperity of this country depends largely, if not entirely on our friendly relations with the United States, and while we are not surprised to see men like Bush and Wilcox, unfriendly to an attempt to cement any closer commercial relations with our great neighbor, we certainly do not expect to find so prominent a man as Mr. T. H. Davies throwing cold water, on any attempt to better our commercial relations.

HAWAIIAN.

April 1, 1890.

Mr. Davies Answers "Hawaiian."

MR. EDITOR: Your correspondent "Hawaiian" takes me to task for my "apparently ill-natured remarks" in reply to Mr. Atherton at the Foreign office conference yesterday.

I must try to bear, as a Christian man may, the statement that I have failed to grasp the seriousness of the situation; but with regard to the ill-nature, there is simply no case. Mr. Atherton and I are probably at one in the belief that there is no desire in the United States to annex these Islands; but we are evidently not agreed as to the prudence of introducing the subject at such a conference as that to which we were courteously invited yesterday, at the Foreign office.

I hinted this in words which were probably understood to carry a fairly serious meaning, and which certainly could not be regarded by any one who heard them as ill-natured.

My own opinion is that so long as we are satisfied that there is no desire anywhere for annexation, it is better to "let sleeping dogs lie."

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

THEO. H. DAVIES.

Honolulu, April 2, 1890.

Dr. J. M. Whitney Interviewed.

The San Francisco Bulletin of Saturday evening March 23d has the following:

Dr. J. M. Whitney of Honolulu arrived in this city yesterday on the Australia. He says that Sister Rose Gertrude, the young lady who sailed from this city a short time ago with the avowed purpose of going to the assistance of the lepers on Molokai and dying there, if need be, will have to content to remain at Kailahi, the receiving station for lepers. The settlement of Molokai is in charge of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, who are maintained there by the Hawaiian Government, and as Sister Gertrude belongs to another order, the Dominican Sisters, she could not be admitted.

The doctor says that Sister Gertrude is very comfortable at Kailahi though disappointed in her expectations. Dr. Whitney says it is a mistake to suppose that the lepers are in want. They have everything, he says, to make life pleasant, and the different religious and other organizations in Honolulu are constantly sending them money and presents.

Dakota has a 1,500 foot well, six inches in diameter, and throwing 4,000 gallons of water a minute. There are in that region wells 3,000 feet deep.

PRESENTATION.

The Employees of Theo. H. Davies & Co. Surprise the Head of the Firm With a Magnificent Present.

On Monday evening the employees of the house of Theo. H. Davies & Co. met at the residence of Mr. R. J. Lillie, the popular manager of the merchandise department, Lunaillo street, and invited Mr. Theo. H. Davies to be present. The grounds were most beautifully illuminated with colored lanterns, while the interior of the house looked charming with its decorations of flags and flowers. Messrs. Thos. R. Walker and F. M. Swanzy, members of the firm were also present.

At a convenient moment, Mr. Danson P. Kellett, the oldest employee of the firm, a veteran of twenty years, confronted Mr. Davies and in a few appropriate words, presented that gentleman on behalf of the employees, with a very handsome photographic album. Mr. Davies, who was evidently taken by surprise, made a touching reply. Mr. Walker and Mr. Swanzy were also presented with albums, all three containing portraits of the employees, some forty in number.

The album presented to Mr. Davies is a magnificent affair, really a work of art. The covers are made of Hawaiian woods inlaid in the most unique pattern. There are thirty-eight different kinds of wood used, and in all five hundred and four pieces. It was the work of Mr. William Miller, Hotel street, and is highly creditable to him. The album contains the pictures of the employees of the house of Theo. H. Davies & Co. who embrace many nationalities. On the first page is the following inscription done most artistically in colored inks by Mr. E. P. Low, the firm's cashier: "Honolulu, April, 1890. Souvenir to Mr. Theo. H. Davies from his employees in Honolulu, as a token of their esteem and respect." On the last page is the monogram T. H. D., in red, blue and gold. The leaves are gilt edged and the clasps silver mounted. The photographs were all taken by Mr. J. J. Williams, which means that they are first-class in every respect.

Mr. Davies was also presented with a group picture, framed, of the employees, to be hung in the firm's office at Liverpool.

Maul Notes.

On Saturday last occurred the first wedding in the new church at Paia. Mr. J. O. Desborough of Kohala was married to Miss Caroline Rathbone, sister of Mrs. A. G. Burchard, by Rev. T. L. Gulick. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers and ferns, a bank of which covered the whole front of the church. Above and back were two vases on the flanks filled with lovely cala lilies from Olinda, and in the center was thrown forward a green arch in the center of which hung a bridal bell of Marguerites. Although the weather was bad, a large number of the neighbors attended the wedding and partook of the wedding lunch at the residence of Mr. Burchard an hour later. The honeymoon will be spent at Erewhon, just under the ever-changing bridal wreath of the clouds of Haleakala.

Hanaloa, an elderly native woman of Keaunui, well known to old settlers, was drowned in a very peculiar manner on Monday of last week. She, with a native female friend, was gathering ophioid on the rocks at the edge of the sea, when a huge wave struck them and carried Hanaloa off to sea. She was probably stunned by being thrown against the rocks, as she was a good swimmer. Her comrade clung to the rocks and was not injured. Hanaloa's body has not been recovered.

Mr. A. G. Burchard and family expect to leave the islands in May for England, where they will reside hereafter. Rev. John Morris and family leave us for the Coast by the outgoing steamer on April 11th. Both these families will be greatly missed.

We are still having excessive rains. Rainfall over nine inches during March. Hamakua, March 25.

The Loomens' Petition.

A number of natives met on Palace Square Monday evening last and passed the following resolution:

"In view of the report of the Committee who presented the petition, signed by 1,746 electors of the city and suburbs of Honolulu, praying His Majesty in Privy Council, to release Albert Loomens' a Belgian subject, which said petition was duly presented, and action declined to be taken upon the said prayer through the advice of His Majesty's Ministers, therefore,

Resolved, That the sense of this meeting strongly condemns the course pursued and the cavalier manner in which the wishes of the petitioners were ignored and defiantly treated, and

Resolved, That this meeting do hereby, by the passage of this resolution, publicly declare their want of confidence in His Majesty's Ministers, and authorize the publication of the same in all the public newspapers of the city."

It is said that the common cow-catcher attachment to locomotives is about the only article of universal use that was never patented. Its inventor was D. B. Davis of Columbus, Ohio, who found his model in the plow.

The American eagle is said to be dying off fast. A late estimate places the entire visible supply in the United States at 300.

Special Notices.

MR. W. F. ALLEN,

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